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## Ms. Rose's Latin Phrases & Mottoes

by Rose Williams

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### Latin Phrases

<b>Culpa est mea</b>	"The fault is mine," Dear Abby's favorite
<b>Senatus populusque Romanus</b>	"The Senate and the Roman people," seen today mostly in Rome on manhole covers, street lampposts, etc., and it can be seen in slides and pictures of Rome
<b>Persona non grata</b>	"A person unwelcome," used in diplomacy
<b>E pluribus unum</b>	"One from many," motto of United States seal seen on money
<b>Lapsus linguae</b>	"A slip of the tongue," sometimes in newspapers.
<b>Esse quam videri</b>	"To be rather than to seem," Sallust said this of Cato; it is also the motto of North Carolina
<b>Condemnant quod non intellegunt</b>	"They condemn because they do not understand," a phrase used to defend almost anything
<b>Sic semper tyrannis</b>	"Thus always to tyrants," the state motto of Virginia
<b>Sic transit gloria mundi</b>	"Thus passes the glory of the world"
<b>Veni, vidi, vici</b>	"I came, I saw, I conquered," the most quoted saying of Caesar
<b>Habeas corpus</b>	"You may (must) have the body."

	a legal term
<b>In hoc signo vinces</b>	"In this sign you will conquer," found on a {gasp} cigarette pack
<b>Quo vadis</b>	<p>"Where are you going?"</p>  <p><a href="#">Click image to see a larger version</a></p>
<b>Tempus fugit</b>	"Time flies," a phrase from Virgil
<b>Summum Bonum</b>	"The Greatest Good"
<b>Verbum sat sapienti</b>	"A word to the wise is enough"
<b>Te morituri salutamus</b>	"We who are about to die salute you"
<b>Semper fidelis</b>	"Always faithful," motto of the Marines
<b>Carpe diem</b>	<p>"Seize the day," a phrase from Horace found many places, such as t - shirts</p> 
<b>Status quo</b>	"The State in Which (we are)"
<b>Cui bono</b>	"To whom for a good? (Who got the profit?)," a phrase from Cicero

<b>Quid pro quo</b>	"What for what," a phrase that denotes an exchange
<b>Non sequitur</b>	"It does not follow"
<b>Dum spiro, spero</b>	"While I breathe, I hope"
<b>Per Diem</b>	"By the Day," a phrase used in business
<b>Pro bono publico</b>	"For the public good," a legal case done for free - called probono
<b>Non compos mentis</b>	"Not sound of mind," a legal term
<b>Sui generis</b>	"Of its own kind," unique
<b>Mens conscia recti</b>	"A mind conscious of right"
<b>Caveat Emptor</b>	"Let the buyer beware"
<b>Mens sana in corpore sano</b>	"A sound mind in a sound body"
<b>Nil disputandum de gustibus</b>	"No disputing about tastes"
<b>Sunt lacrimae rerum</b>	"There are tears for things," a phrase from Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i>
<b>Descensus Averno facilis est</b>	"Easy is the descent to Avernus," a phrase from Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i>
<b>Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes</b>	"I fear the Greeks even bearing gifts," a phrase from Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i>
<b>Quod Sum Eris</b>	"I am what you will be," a motto for a gravestone
<b>Sine Qua Non</b>	"Without which nothing," an absolute necessity
<b>Pro Tempore</b>	"For the Time Being," business, protem
<b>Cogito, ergo sum</b>	"I think, therefore I am"
<b>Nihil de nihilo fit</b>	"Nothing comes from nothing," simplified from Lucretius
<b>Pons Asinorum</b>	"The Bridge of Fools," anything that divides the capable from the incapable, e.g., a geometry problem, a type of medieval SAT